



What's New in the City

City of Natchitoches

January 1, 2014

Parade Entries Recognized for Excellence

Volume XV, Issue 1

The Natchitoches Christmas Festival Parade Committee awarded trophies to nine participants of the 2014 Festival of Lights Parade held on Saturday, December 6, 2014. Awards were presented in nine separate categories recognizing excellence in music, entertainment and holiday spirit.

In the Band Division, awards were presented to:

- Tioga High School Band (Tioga, LA) - Best Music
- Southwood High School Band (Shreveport, LA) - Most Entertaining



The Natchitoches Humane Society's float won the award for Most Holiday Spirit in the Float Division

- Sam Houston High School Band (Lake Charles, LA) - Most Holiday Spirit
- In the Float Division, awards were presented to:
• Camp Quality—Best Float

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Did you know?

- Christmas lights will remain on every night in downtown Natchitoches through the first week of January.
- Boogie on the Bricks sponsored by Maglieaux's on the Cane will be held Saturdays after doubleheader basketball games at NSU. Dates for Boogie on the Bricks are January 10, 17 & 24.
- The City of Natchitoches offices will be closed Monday, January 19 in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- The Natchitoches Recreation and Parks Department will begin registration for basketball and baseball January 5.

Recreation and Parks to Offer Basketball and Baseball in 2015



The Natchitoches Recreation and Parks Department will hold registration for youth basketball and baseball in January. Registration will begin January 5, 2015 at the MLK Recreation Center located at 660 MLK

Drive.

Basketball registration is open to boys and girls age 5 through 14. Registration costs are \$45 per child and \$35 for each additional child. Registration will be held Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. beginning January 5. Additionally, basketball registration will be held on Saturday, January 10, and Saturday, January 17 from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Any registration completed after January 17 is considered late and will be processed at \$50 per child, no exceptions.

Drafts for both boys and girls will be held at the MLK Recreation Center. The draft date for boys and girls age 5 to 10 will

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Parade (continued)

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- Natchitoches Humane Society—Most Holiday Spirit

Other awards that were presented included:

- Tabasco Kids—Best Dance Group
- St. Mary's School Spirit Groups—Best Cheer Group
- Natchitoches Central Jr. ROTC—Best Marching Unit

- Pop Smiley's Train—Best Specialty Unit

"This year we worked hard to set a clear standard of excellence for each of our parade partners to strive for. We were honored to recognize these groups for their excellence and hopes this encourages future festival partners to continue to strive for excellence," said Festival Parade Chair Fred Teresa.

Recreation (continued)

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be Tuesday, January 20, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. The draft date for boys and girls age 11 to 14 will be Thursday, January 22, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. Any child not registered by January 17 will not be allowed to participate in the draft and will be added to a team.

The Natchitoches Recreation and Parks Department will also be offering competitive baseball this summer. The purpose of these competitive teams is to help develop young men for high school baseball, similar to the basketball leagues. The competitive baseball league differs from recreational teams in that no amount of playing time is mandatory and anyone in the specified age group is eligible to play. The goals of this program are not to win World Series and collect rings, but to teach, train and instruct players in the game of baseball so that they can be successful on a much larger scale.

Age groups for the competitive baseball leagues are:

- 14 and Under
- 12 and Under
- 10 and Under (possibly)

As with basketball and football, players will be divided into different teams. If there is enough for only one team, then only one team will be formed.

Registration for the baseball league will be held January 5 through 16 at the MLK Recreation Center. The cost is \$100 for one child, \$75 for the second child, and \$50 for every child after that.

The Draft Combine for 14U and 12U will be held at Chad Hargis



Field at Natchitoches Central High School on January 17, 2015 at 1:00 p.m. Once the numbers are determined for the 14U and 12U groups, a decision on the 10U will be made.

For more information on either of these programs, please contact the Natchitoches Recreation and Parks Department at (318) 357-3891.



Vendors Sought for 2015 Bloomin' on the Bricks

The City of Natchitoches Main Street Office is seeking vendors for the 2015 Bloomin' on the Bricks spring festival. The 15th Annual Bloomin' on the Bricks, Natchitoches's spring and garden festival, will be held on Saturday, March 21, 2015, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on the downtown riverbank in Natchitoches's Historic Landmark District.

The event will feature an exhibit area of lawn and garden vendors who will display and sell an assortment of items related to garden and lawn care. Vendors of lawn and garden merchandise such as landscaping, nurseries, lawn furniture, ironwork, yard art, garden décor, etc. are invited to participate in this year's show. Vendor spaces are available for \$50 per each 10x10 space.

Bloomin' on the Bricks, organized by the Natchitoches Main Street Program, is a celebration of spring throughout the City's Historic District. Visitors will be able to see the beauty of springtime in downtown Natchitoches through its hanging flower baskets and thousands of daffodils and tulips planted along the riverbank. The event will also feature live entertainment, children's activities and food booths. Bloomin' on the Bricks is free and open to the public.

In conjunction with Bloomin' on the Bricks, the Natchitoches Art Guild and Gallery will host Art Along the Bricks from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, March 21. Artists will display fine arts and crafts along Front Street in an outdoor art show. For more information on Art Along the Bricks, please contact the Natchitoches Art Guild and Gallery at (318) 352-1626.

For those interested in becoming a vendor at Bloomin' on the Bricks, please contact the City of Natchitoches Main Street Office at (318) 352-2746 for more information.

Save the Date! ***Leaders Against Litter*** ***March 13, 2015***

Keep Natchitoches Beautiful is one of 23 Keep Louisiana Beautiful (KLB) affiliate communities across the state set to participate in the second annual "Leaders Against Litter" event on Friday, March 13, 2015. Leaders throughout Natchitoches parish are asked to join Keep Natchitoches Beautiful in this statewide "litter-thon."

Local officials, stakeholders and potential supporters are asked to "Save the Date" as more details on the Natchitoches Leaders Against Litter event will be released in upcoming weeks.

For more information on Keep Natchitoches Beautiful activities, please call the City of Natchitoches Main Street Office at 318-352-2746.

About Leaders Against Litter

Leaders Against Litter is a statewide Keep Louisiana Beautiful (KLB) event uniting leaders on common ground for a cleaner, more beautiful Louisiana. On March 13, 2015, community and political leaders throughout the state will join Lt.

Gov. Governor Jay Dardenne in publicly pledging their support for a litter-free Louisiana. After a morning cleaning their local communities, representatives will meet on the steps of the State Capitol to kick off the Great American Cleanup occurring throughout the state in the months of March, April and May involving thousands of community volunteers.

About Keep Louisiana Beautiful

Keep Louisiana Beautiful (KLB) is a volunteer-based service organization dedicated to a more beautiful and litter-free Louisiana. Through a statewide network of over 32 affiliate organizations, KLB engages over 23,000 volunteers at a value of over \$2.3 million dollars. Volunteers pick up over 670,000 pounds of litter from roadways and waterways. Each year, KLB issues close to a quarter million dollars for programs and activities focusing on environmental education, litter enforcement, cleanups, recycling and strengthening communities. KLB promotes personal, corporate and community responsibility for a clean and beautiful Louisiana. For more information, visit www.keeplouisianabeautiful.org. Find us on Facebook and follow us on Instagram.



January Events at LASHOF & Northwest Louisiana History Museum

The Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame and Northwest Louisiana History Museum will continue special programming into the new year!

On Tuesday, January 6, the museum will host Emma Boozman: In Her Own Words at 6:00 p.m. In 2013, Emma Boozman retired as one of the most successful girls basketball coaches in Louisiana with an 865-370 record over her 36 year career (26 years spent with the Natchitoches Central Lady Chiefs). Prior to her career as a coach, she was a stand-out athlete at Northwestern State University, averaging 10 points and 5 rebounds per game between 1973—1967. In April of 1975, she became one of the first 10 women in Louisiana to receive an athletic scholarship. This year she is being inducted into the LSHAA Hall of Fame and on January 6, she will be at the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame and Northwest Louisiana History Museum to share her story. The program is free and open to the public.

On Tuesday, January 27, join the museum for a screening of the documentary *Sacred as Folk*. The film, directed by Matt Petty and David Steele, explores the world of Brother Michael David Elvestrom. Misunderstood by many locals, Brother Michael David shares a glimpse of his life as a Franciscan monk, musician, artist and hermit in this intimate film about finding spirituality through art. The screening will be from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. A reception with light refreshments sponsored by FLASH will be held at 6:00 p.m. leading up to the screening of the film at 6:15 p.m. A question and answer session will be held following the film at 8:00 p.m. Admission to the event is \$10 for the general public and \$8 for FLASH members with a valid ID card.

For more information on either of these programs, please contact the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame and Northwest Louisiana History Museum at (318) 357-2492.

The Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame and Northwest Louisiana History Museum is open Tuesdays through Saturdays, 10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., and Sundays from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

KNB Phonebook Recycling Contest Winners

Keep Natchitoches Beautiful recently concluded its 2014 Fifth Grade Phone Book Recycling Contest.

Parish fifth graders were asked to collect phone books to be recycled during the months of October and November. The final tally was completed on November 15, 2014, in conjunction with America Recycles Day.

The winning schools were Provencal Elementary School with 780 phone books collected and NSU Elementary Lab with 558 phone books. All together, more than 2,000 phone books were collected from parish schools.

The winners received a pizza party, cake, and a check for \$150 to continue recycling efforts and education in the school. The annual phone book recycling contest was sponsored by Keep Natchitoches Beautiful, CP-Tel and the Natchitoches Parish Sheriff's Office.



City of Natchitoches

Oldest Permanent
Settlement in the
Louisiana Purchase

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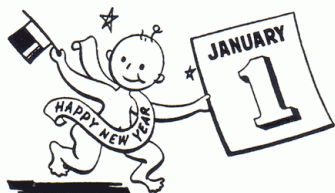
HAPPY NEW YEAR

Fire Department & Brookshire's Team Up for Spirit of Christmas Food Drive

The Natchitoches Fire Department and Brookshire's teamed up to deliver holiday cheer during the Spirit of Christmas Food Drive. Thousands of canned goods were donated and stored at the Natchitoches Fire Training Center where they were sorted into boxes to be delivered to community groups throughout the city. More than 300 boxes of canned goods were distributed to organizations including the Natchitoches Parish Council on Aging, the Office of Community Services, CASA of Central Louisiana, Catholic Soup Kitchen as well as to individuals in the community who were in need.



Upcoming Holidays & Important Dates



Jan. 1—New Year's Day, City
Offices Closed.

Jan. 5—Natchitoches Historic
District Commission Meeting,
5:00 p.m. at the Natchitoches
Arts Center

Jan. 6—Planning & Zoning
Meeting, 5:30 p.m. at the Nat-
chitoches Arts Center

Jan. 6—Emma Boozman: In

Her Own Words, 6:00 p.m. at
the Louisiana Sports Hall of
Fame & Northwest Louisiana
History Museum. Free.

Jan. 12—City Council Meeting,
5:30 p.m. at the Natchitoches
Arts Center

Jan. 15—Natchitoches Historic
District Development Commis-
sion Meeting, 10:00 a.m. at the
Natchitoches Arts Center

Jan. 19—Martin Luther King,
Jr. Day, City Offices Closed

Jan. 20—Airport Commission
Meeting, 5:00 p.m. at the Nat-
chitoches Regional Airport

Jan. 26—City Council Meeting,
5:30 p.m. at the Natchitoches
Arts Center

Jan. 27—"Brother Michael"
Documentary Screening, 6:00
p.m. at the Louisiana Sports
Hall of Fame & Northwest
Louisiana History Museum.
Admission \$10.

